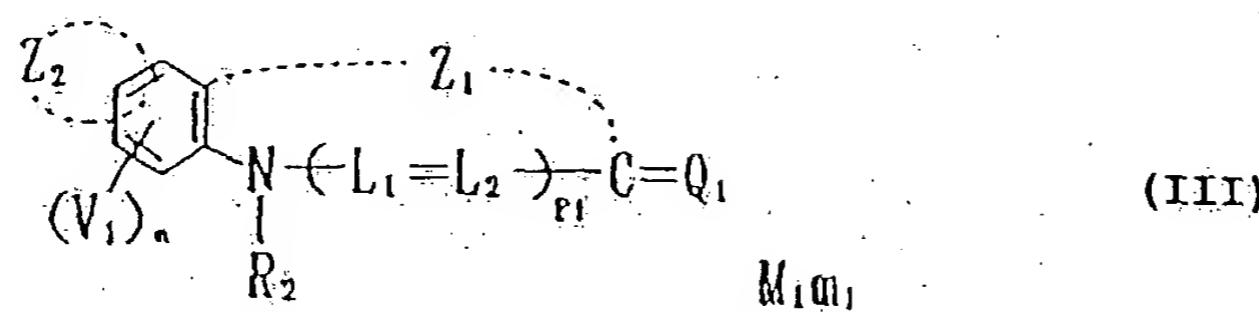


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

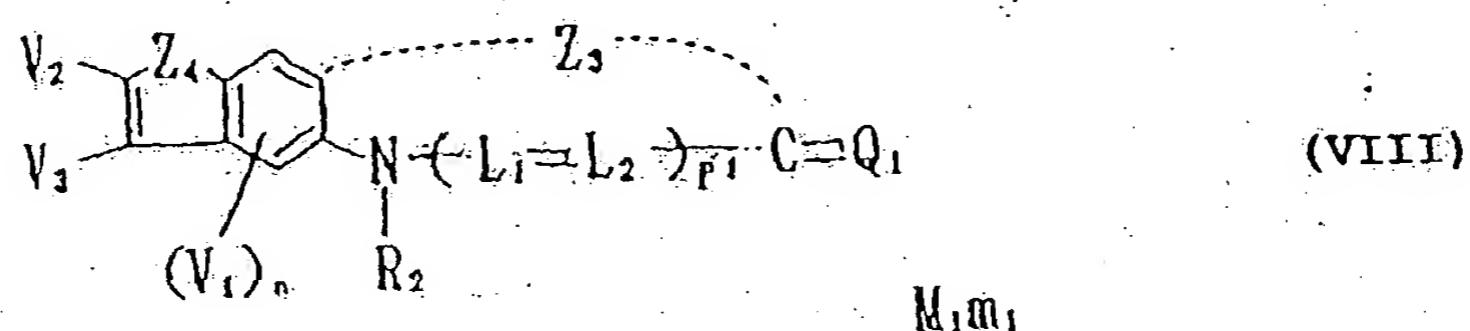
Claim 1. A compound represented by formula
(III):



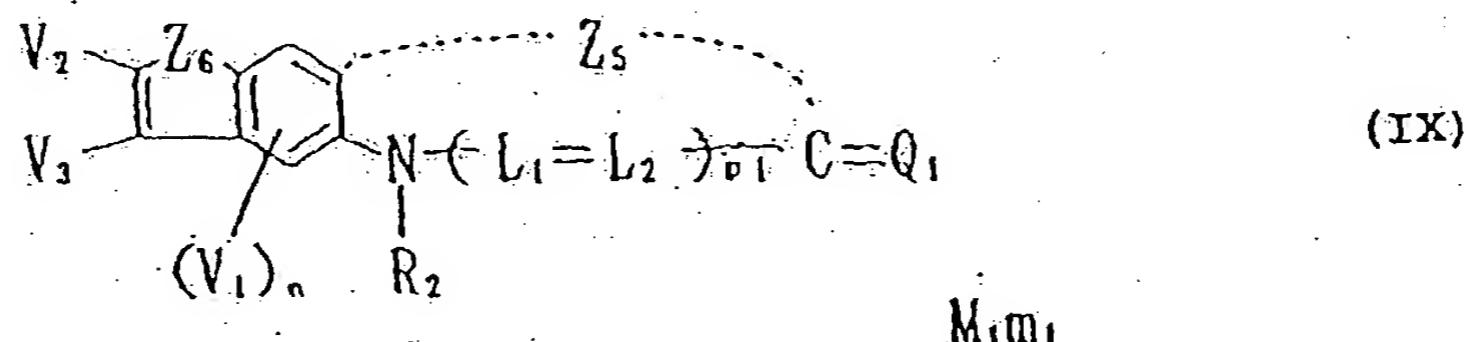
wherein Z_1 represents an atomic group necessary to form thiazole; Z_2 represents an atomic group selected from the group consisting of a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isooxazole ring, an isothiazole ring and an imidazole ring; R_2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; L_1 and L_2 each represents a methine group; p_1 represents 0; V_1 represents a substituent; Q_1 represents a methine group or a polymethine group necessary to form a methine dye; M_1 represents an electric charge balancing counter ion; and m_1 represents a number of from 0 to 10 necessary to neutralize the electric charge of the molecule; and n represents 0, 1 or 2, and when n represents 2, a plurality of V_1 may be the same or different.

2. The compound as claimed in claim 1,
wherein Z_2 represents a furan ring, a thiophene ring
or a pyrrole ring.

3. The compound as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the compound represented by formula (III) is
represented by formula (VIII) or (IX):



wherein Z_4 represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur
atom; Z_3 represents an atomic group necessary to form
thiazole, L_1 , L_2 , p_1 , V_1 , n , R_2 , Q_1 , M_1 , and m_1 each
has the same meaning as described in formula (III);
and V_2 and V_3 represents a substituent, or V_2 and V_3
may form a condensed ring containing V_2 and V_3 ;



wherein Z_6 represents $N-R_3$; Z_5 represents an
atomic group necessary to form thiazole; R_3
represents a hydrogen atom or a substituent; L_1 , L_2 ,
 p_1 , V_1 , n , R_2 , Q_1 , M_1 , and m_1 each has the same

meaning as described in formula (III); and V₂ and V₃ each has the same meaning as described in formula (VIII).

4. The compound as claimed in claim 3, wherein R₂ represents an alkyl group having an aryl group as a substituent or an aryl group.

5. The compound as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one substituent represented by V₁ is a group having at least one dissociable group which has a dissociable proton and has a negative charge at proton dissociation or which forms a salt with a counter cation in the form of an anion.

6. The compound as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one substituent represented by V₂ or V₃ in formula (VIII) or formula (IX) is a group having at least one dissociable group which has a dissociable proton and has a negative charge at proton dissociation or which forms a salt with a counter cation in the form of an anion.

7. The compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R₂ represents an alkyl group having an aryl group as a substituent or an aryl group.

8. The compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one substituent represented by V₁ is

a group having at least one dissociable group which has a dissociable proton and has a negative charge at proton dissociation or which forms a salt with a counter cation in the form of an anion.